


Remarks

The allowance of claims 4-15 and 28-33 is noted with appreciation, as is the indicated allowability of claims 34-37. By way of the foregoing amendments, rejected claim 1 has been cancelled, claim 34 has been rewritten in independent form, and claim 2 has been amended to depend from claim 34. Accordingly, claims 2, 3 and 34-37 presumably are now allowable along with claims 4-15 and 28-33, and no pending claim stands rejected.

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

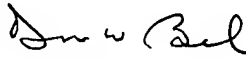
By 
Don W. Bulson, Reg. No. 28,192

1621 Euclid Avenue
Nineteenth Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
(216) 621-1113

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper or thing referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: April 5, 2004


Don W. Bulson

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